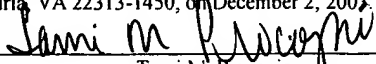


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Tami M. Procopio



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Asim DASGUPTA et al.

Serial No.: 09/836,073

Filing Date: 16 April 2001

For: METHODS TO INHIBIT VIRAL  
REPLICATION

Examiner: Sean R. McGarry

Group Art Unit: 1635

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**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein, mailed 2 June 2003, time for response to which was set to expire 2 September 2003. A petition for an extension of time of three (3) months until 2 December 2003 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. The considered claims, claims 1-12 were rejected. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.